THE CALEDONIAN. ST. JOHNSBURY, VT.

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### Selected Poetru.

towns payments may be made direct to this office; but we in-

THE HEART'S CONFESSIONAL. other underneath the trees,

har dropped their shadows down the gravel and when the leaves bowed to the pleasant We more their plaintive rustling in our talk ;

serve, stretching downward o'er the hill, . ... lien wheat waved calmly in the night. dreams swept o'er it peacefully and still. to taked in tones made tender by the sight

take tak moonlight sleeping on the earth, mes and plans just struggling into light, actual life had given birthas ked of every-day's most quiet hours. ii a fast they flitted from our grasp away-Have delly we sat among the flowers and heeded not the passing of the day.

melody dropped off the wings of birds. As they fly upward to the fields of light;' w. ..... "How calm the blessed moonlight lies white waves of the distant lakestill the stars o'erlook us with sad eyes, As attently they watch the evening break. Asalasa silence came with measured steps,

And -at between us with its soothing waysthought of love grew large upon our lips, Illough still they struggled for conventional Worn, like a river's swift resistless course, if a love leaped into words that from his heart time pouring on each other with such force The tones jarred through them like a sound

And as on cager blossoms falls the dew. So fell his love on me-with passionate will k soring the whole length of my nature through Leaving no current undisturbed and still. dessed memory of that sweet night. When we, beneath the watchful, rustling trees,

w from the wine of love its ruby light, And drained the chalice of its bitter lees ! quiet hills and lake that silent lay, hard well the memory that I leave to you. or over its grave the dead leaves fall away, Withered for want of light and dew!

Mornior again those words so sweet to hear, That I may gather where life's waters drift. Over the sands, one jewel bright and clear. Louisville Journal

# From the Butler Regiment.

CAMP HOLEROOK, Brattleboro, ? February 18, 1862.

The Editor of The Caledonian: the battle goes bravely on. The hearts of history of their lives; but now that they have

I've hand in the settlement of the business' actions heartiness from a thousand throats, argued that our boys were eager for the shward murch to the battle field in season fighting at Fort Donelson

so in the world at large, we have to take for three hours.

present rebellion."

# Caledonian.

VOL. 26--NO. 35. ST. JOHNSBURY, VT., FRIDAY, FEB. 28, 1862.

WHOLE NO. 1283.

Wednesday, 19th. into the U. S. service yesterday. The bal- were almost bereft of companies. cannot always be done in a trice.

ecy or invention, I subscribe myself

Yours truly,

The Social Circle of the White House. men. There is evidently an unfriendly feeling in Congrees towards a certain class of adventurers, who have the run of the White House and get influence with the executive, contracts at the departments, and information of state secrets, through the favor they enjoy with the wife of the president. This unfriendliness is evidenced in the repeated attacks of the Senate upon Col Lamon, the marshal of the district, its rejection of the appointment of Mr Watt, the gardner and head waiter at the White House, as a lieutenant in the army, the exposure by the Pot-And from our lips they plumed themselves to ter investigating committee of the disloyalty of the same person, and last, and perhaps most significantly, by the relish with which the House last week arrested and locked up that noted Bohemian, Chevelier Wikoff, who, as secret correspondent of the New York Herald, had furnished that paper with an advance account of the president's message, And then we said, "How sweet the sounds tomation when arraigned by the judiciary committee. It was well understood that his information came through his intimacy at the White House, and this was why the House establishment, Gen Dan Sickles, who is a pet

Laf-lipped trees through which the shadows relations of Wikoff at the White House, and portunity and advanced upon Schwartz and of such contemptible and disgraceful associations. Neither he nor Mrs Lincoln, fresh from Illinois, could be supposed to know at

a rejoiced by the two important items of it is to be presumed they will hasten to reswas which vesterday were sent over the cue their own reputation and that of the lor opened on them with grape, canister and quatry on the lightning's wing,-the cap- country from such personal intinacies. Withre of Fort Donelson with fifteen thousand koff has long been known, both in this counthe troops, and the capture of Savannah by try and Europe, as a personal and political began to fall back, and we recovered the intriguer; has been largely employed to do Our first intimation in camp of the num- the secret and dirty work of the Herald ; and bers taken at Fort Donelson was officially some years ago, it may be remembered, he received from Col Thomas, by whose order persecuted an English heiress on the conti-

We were halted while on a very interesting nent so outrageously with his attentions and and to the dinner table-and formed on almost forcible seizure that he was arrested the totale ground. At the announcement and thrown into prison by the English auwer after cheer made the welkin ring at thorities. No lady who knows him and reand when the colonel followed the an- spects herself, would endure his acquaintance statement of the news with the declaration or accept his attentions for a moment.we must be diligent in order to have Springfield Republican.

the renewed cheers that went up with tre- Thrilling Account of the Fight on Satur-

be in at the death of the monster Secessumed with unusual vigor and determination. of Southern handicraft which appropriately was in a fair way to be promoted for bra-It is just now quite a bustling time with The 8th, 18th, 20th and 31st Illinois regis appear for the delectation of the sight-seers very. a la camp, as we are expecting to be in- ments occupied position above the fort. They of the Old World :- 1st, A brace of Virginia Well, may God forgive him, sir!-- Am- rears its branches nakedly toward heaven, is specied for the U. S. service to day, mustered were about preparing a little food, when the niggers, manacled and appropriately branded herst College Magazine. Interior, and paid off the next day. The rebels opened upon them with a fire of mus- with hot iron, got up for the Louisiana Slavethe of our departure is yet uncertain, but ketry. A line of battle was at once formed, market : 2d, A pair of blood-hounds used by " are expecting to leave some time next and the storm of leaden hail retured, percept- "Southern gentlemen" in fugitive hunting We let Ship Island, as we suppose. We ibly thinning the rebel ranks. The rebels excursions; 3d, Model of a Charleston slavethe our experience of camp life in this from their advantageous position showered trader, with the rattlesnake flag flying at the we is much the same as that of thousands upon our ranks most murderous volleys of mast head; 4th, Specimens of Southern thers, in other camps. We have here, as musketry, grape and cannister, killing and hemp with which Methodist ministers have the great world, a mixed assemblage of wounding our men almost by companies, at been strung up for the edification of the denand impious persons, with their vari- every round; yet every man stood his ground izens of that Sovereign State: 5th, A few said a sergeant one night to a picket he was low Alexandria-a line of outposts averaging sublances, for good and evil. There are bravely and determinedly, without flinching, gross of revolvers and bowie-knives with posting. "Here you are, here, and there are from one to three miles in advance of those who love prayer, and others who love These four regiments held their ground, fight- which the "chivalry" bandy compliments at the rebels, there. If you get a crack at them white tents which render still whiter the who love Jesus, and others ing against appaling odds and in face of eve- social gatherings and political meetings; 6th, first, all right; but if they get a shot at you snow-clad plains of Virginia. The man we "he "delight in cursing and bitterness;" ry disadvantage. The 18th regiment seems Specimens of Mississippi Repudiated Bonds, first, then look out for thunder!" The ambigu-first see is a picket on his post-a number one who preach the gospel, others who to have resisted the severest storm. Against with the portrait of Jeff Davis etched on ous declaration of consequences aside, the two man, rear rank of the fourth group of pretine vice; so that singing and and pray- their ranks the rebels directed their heaviest brass; 7th, the tools with which Floyd pick- remark of the sergeant reveals the whole phi- the first section of the second platoon of comng. card playing and profanity, vulgarity fire; but instead of falling back they advance ed the lock of the Treasury vault, and care losophy of picketing. To avoid being shot pany C, eighth regiment. (You may see and relinement, wit, wisdom and folly, drills, ed to the very face of the enemy and there ried off millions of public funds for the pur- or surprised, and, perhaps, to shoot or sur- from this statement what a military nomenstands and sermons, are strangely mixed up stood in the ve.y jaws of death, with scarcely pose of laying the financial corner-stone of prise his rebellious neighbor opposite, is the clature the man will in if he should be so unthe society of our miniature world. And, a prospect that a single man would escape, the Confederate States; 8th, Portrait of basis of all the picket's cunning stratagems, fortunate as to be shot.) We perceive that

These regiments, numbering scarcely 3000 "I have prayed for war with England for 30 the largest of seeing an improvement in the men, held their ground against the whole years;" 9th, Specimens of southern literature, under the stern law of meum vs. tuum, with whole, so well provided with clothing that white of society, and we are using means for rebel garrison. At one time the 18th, being comprising De Row's Review, "elegant ex-"his stal, while humbly trusting in the grace partilly flanked, was exposed to a cross fire tracts" from the Charleston Mercury, and a the immipotent One to make those means of both musketry and artillery, but our right fac simile of the original draft of the Fugi-

question for discussion this evening is, "Re- wounded. Capt Cruse was shot dead, Col ed in a glass case. that slavery is the elementary cause of the lan wounded, so that the daring "Egyptian" affluence of that favored region in industrial in groups, immediately in front of the care- he presumed the picket to be. Having been regiment stood before an overwhelming foe resources .- Albany Evening Journal.

almost without officers. They fell in heaps About seven companies of our regiment, of dead and wounded. Companies were beincluding the battery company, were sworn reft of captains and lieutenants, and captains

ance are to be sworn in to-day. It is expect- The other three regiments did their duty ed that the paying off process will commence nobly. Cols. Oglesby, Marsh and Logan immediately thereafter. The camp report dashed along the ranks, waving their hats now is, I know not on what authority, that and cheering their men to the conflict .we are to leave camp this week on Saturday. "Suffer death men," cried Logan, "but dis-I think it rather improbable, however. Large grace never! Stand firm and well!" They bodies are proverbially slow, and business heeded him, and many were killed and wounded, and among the latter were Col Lo-Nothing more of especial interest occurs gan and Lieut Col White. Oglesby's and to me now, and as I am not yet practiced in Marsh's regiments fought desperately, losing manufacturing beforehand, by way of proph- like other regiments an undue proportion of officers. Col Oglesby displayed a coolness A. W. E. and courage that have elicited the highest praise, and served well in stimulating his

Never, perhaps, on the American continent has a more bloody battle been fought. An officer, who participated and was wounded in the fight, says the scene beggars description. So thickly was the battle field strewn with the dead and wounded that he could have traversed acres of it stepping at almost every step upon a prostrate body.-The rebels fought with desperation. Their artillerists wielded their pieces with most fearful effect. On either side could be heard the voices of those in command cheering on

The four Illinois regiments held their ground full three hours. Nearly one-third had been killed and wounded, yet the balance stood firm. Finally, about 4 o'clock, our right wing turned the rebels' left, and they fell back into their fortifications, and our flag was planted upon the position occupied by their left wing, and for a time the slaughter ceased.

## The Victory at Fort Donelson.

A TERRIBLE AND ALMOST FATAL MISTAKE. The Chicago Tribune's correspondent, in was more persistent in its demand and giving a description of the battle at Fort determination to expose the disgrace- Donelson, says that when Col Crafts' brigade ful association. After enjoying close which had been ordered to reinforce Gen quarters with the sergeant-at-arms for 24 McClernand, came up in the rear of the 30th hours, the chevelier's White House friends- and 31st Illinois and the 25th Kentucky, Watt, who still remains in employ at that these regiments were lying down and firing over the crest of a hill. They rose, and not beau of the lady of the mansion, and even knowing whether the force in their rear was Mr Lincoln himself-intervened in his behalf friend or foe, the 25th Kentucky supposing before the committee, and told the story as them to be rebels, poured in a raking volley to the manner in which the surreptitious in- on them which did terrible execution and formation was gained. Watt confessed that was sufficient to throw the entire brigade inhe stole an abstract of the document from to disorder at once, which was almost a panthe president's table, and thus directly, or ic. Some threw down their guns and equipindirectly through Mrs Lincoln, Mr Wikoff ments, and fled immediately. The woods and the Herald obtained it. The House were filled with straglers, some even fled to having probed the secret, and exposed the Fort Henry. The enemy improved the opthe character of Watt, anew, dropped the Dresser's batteries, capturing five guns and matter, and Wikoff was released. We hope taking possession of Gen McClernand's headthe president will now have the good sense quarters, driving our forces nearly a mile and and firmness to take a hint from congression- a half. Instead, however, of adhering to al public opinion, and purge his home-the their supposed intention to escape, the rebels home of the chief executive of the nation- resolved to follow up their advantage by pursuit. At this juncture, Gen Wallace's division was thrown in front and took a position on a ridge, with Taylor's battery in Dear Sir :- Surely, events thicken, and first the real character of these men, nor the the center of the road. The rebels formed on the ridge which Gen McClernand had octhe natriotic everywhere are doubtless great- learned what was notorious in eastern cities, cupied, and, flushed with success, moved forward. As soon as they came in range Tavshell, causing the rebels to quail and come to a halt, and as the infantry advanced they ground previously lost.

# The Rebels at the World's Fair.

A portion of the ground selected for the been appropriated to the so-called Confederate States. Even if the latter should have to these rebel acres .- N. Y. Times.

The following is an account of Saturday's ceive the contribution with which Secessia of course. Next day he was out, as you may may adorn its niche in the great Industrial guess. . . The last time I heard of On Saturday morning the battle was re- Exhibition. We will indicate a few "articles" him, he had risen to be sergeant-major, and

An Exasperated Private.

Private McMurtrie-we'll say that was his name-was as fine a young man as ever I saw in my life. So handsome and strong, and so gentle! I remember him now, as he pressed up by my side to the assault of St Sebastian, with his blue eve kindling, and his hair blowing back : I never said two words to him in my life, perhaps, but I used to admire him often. Well, sir, he had the misfortune to offend the major once: I won't say how, sir, but the fault was not his: would have done it myself.

You know how flogging was managed then, sir. The regiment would be drawn up three-square, at morning or evening parade then they would bring the poor fellow out and fasten him with his hands and feet stretched on the triangle; and then one of he drummers would lay into him with his cat-stick with ten lashes you know sir. To see the blood spirt from the bare back of a man, 'twould make you feel faint, the first time, I think. Many's the time when I've stood at my post with eyes closed, gritting ny teeth hard together every time I'd feel the poor wretch-hear him, I mean-moanng. And it was a common thing in those days for officers to take oath before the surgeon that they were sick, just to get off from seeing a man flogged at morning parade.

Well sir, the major got McMurtrie three nundred lashes; and he took them with never a whimper. From that day, though, he was wrong with him, I was certain.

and as the officer passed along our line, according to the exigencies of the case, thinks I to myself, 'I must tell if he asks me.' He stopped and put the question to the man by my side. 'No sir!' was the answer. As I said nothing, he passed me by, and asked the next man. 'No sir!' again, and so all along—the men lied, to save their comrade's life. We were ranged three deep then; and not two deep, as you are now-a-days. when the front rank had shown their pieces for inspection, to the rear, and the officers walked down the second rank, in which Mc Murtrie was, I watched him with the corner of my eye, as the command was given-order arms! Quick as lightning he had changed

muskets with the man behind. He was safe. Av, but he knew that I had his secret. I could see how the fear of me kept weighing on him; every time I passed him he would tremble. At last, one day, when he saw me going to speak with the colonel, he fell to Grand Industrial Exhibition of 1862, has the ground in a faint. The colonel noticed it and rode up, but suspecting nothing called out to the surgeon :- 'Here, doctor, have this the means of transportion, it puts the imag- man taken to the hospital; he is not fit for ination on the stretch to conceive what spec- work.' Sir, you ought to have seen the imens of Southern industry would be sent smile that played over the poor fellow's face, when he caught these words. As he was Bless your simple soul! it requires no a- carried off to bed, he coulden't help giving larming "stretch" of "imagination" to con- me a wink, which I took care not to notice,

[From the N. Y. Post.] LIFE IN THE ARMY.

Scenes at the Outposts.

PICKETING AND ITS DUTIES. Toombs, haranguing the Senate and crying; sly watchings, crafty sneakings, and other he wears huge boots, a huge overcoat, huge manœuvres. His entire service is rendered comforters around his neck, and is, on the

THE LINE OF OUTPOSTS.

advance of his own force as to secure a suita- ing about, and he himself is determined not ble notification of any advance or other de- to furnish another lesson of the kind to his monstration of the enemy. These posts are fellows. generally within sight or hearing of one another, and the line they form is so extended as to protect the whole body of troops to which they belong.

All natural advantages, such as trees, rocks, narrow defiles, &c., are considered in the se lection of picket stations, and important openings and frequented foot-paths near an encampment are habitually placed under surveillance. In active service in Virginia, or in almost any settled district, our picket stations are farm-houses, mills and barns, which the enemy has deserted at the approach of our troops. Around Alexandria, at Port Tobacco, beyond Chain Bridge, toward Centerville, Fairfax, and other places where our forces have been so long resident as to boast of being natives, the picket has taken unto himself local appointments and conveniences, and rendered his "peculiar institution" quite domesticated; frequently occupying a comfortable house and a good bed, and some times keeping a cow or a pig. For the picket, like everybody else, from the disciples of the hant philosophie downward, is keenly alive to to the divine "law of compensations," as witness the pertinacity with which he demands that a night of exposure should be followed by a bottle of whiskey!

THE PICKETS POSTED.

At times a single picket is placed at a post was an altered man; all the life was taken and relieved every two hours, like a sentry right out of him. I used to want to say of the regular camp guard; but it is customsomething to him, to tell him how I loved any for three or four men to be put on one him, and bid him keep up heart, when I'd station with orders to relieve each other at see him sitting all by himself, idle; but their mutual pleasure, taking care only that somehow I never could do it. Something one of the three or four is always wide awake and rendering requisite service-the others One day we had a grand review: I sup- sleeping, reading, playing cards, or pose there were eighteen thousand men of doing anything else that they please, accordus. It was in Phenix Park, Dublin, a splen- ing to the hour and the weather. Five days did piece of ground of some fifteen hundred is the usual period for a detachment of pick acres. Well, there was the lord lieutenant, ets to remain on duty, and three pickets is with all his staff, in front of us; and among the average number to each post, so that them this same major. As usual on such oc- while one is on duty his two comrades may casions, we were to fire down the line with be at leisure, each thus having two hours of blank cartridge. The artillery, on the right, service to four hours of rest. It is found took it up first; then the cavalry; then the that a line of solitary pickets is not so serfire passed down the line of infantry-when viceable as one of groups, probably because all of a sudden the major dropped from his solitude is not the normal condition of the norse, dead, shot in the side. Instantly the biped under discussion. One picket no soonbugles blew to cease firing : all the staff dis- er finds himself alone, in "dense midnight," mounted and went along the line examining on a lonely post, than he abstractedly swalthe pieces; for you know, sir, it is an easy lows tobacco-juice in such quantities as to matter to tell whether a gun has been loaded make himself sick, while another, under the with ball or blank cartridge, by just looking same circumstances, incontinently bolts the down the muzzle. At the same time, they rations of himself and comrades for several would ask at intervals :- Tell me upon your days. Still others are so reckless as to seek honor sir, if you heard the report of a mus- a sheltered and secret place, and go to sleep. ket loaded with ball, or anything resembling. For these and similar reasons, it is customasuch a sound.' Now I heard it, plain enough, ry to post pickets in twos,or in larger groups,

THE DRAMA OF PICKETING OPENS.

We will suppose that we are moving among the advanced posts of our army in Virginia, a savior with the outposts of Gen Mc-Call's division, for it matters little where we place ourselves as regards the duties or adventures we shall witness. The time is evening -a cold, wintry night, when the sky is overcast by a leaden canopy of clouds, and when a thin crust of sleet and snew covers the face of the earth and whitens the forest. The hour is ten o'clock, when the stlence of the sleeping armies seems in keeping with he desolation of nature, and when the picket can lardly distinguish the forms of his foes from the unreal beings of his apprehension. Here we are, far away from the lights which make the city living and pleasant in even its sleepiest moments-far away from the world of peace, and all its comforts and blessings. and suddenly ushered upon the stern labors and repulsive realities of a world of war!-Here we are, a mile or two in advance of the tents of the advance brigade of General Mc-Call's division, and all around us is silent and desolate-all silent save the wind, and even that is a voice of desolation-its sighing seeming at once a requiem for the past and a it is customary for the officer in charge of the mon. It is decidedly comical to see two men moan for the red-winged hours that are pickets to make a tour of observation among who have lain behind a couple of trees or

THE PICKET ON DUTY.

We are not alone in this sullen empire of night. Yonder, away by that old oak which a figure in human form, which moves slowly to and fro. As we draw nearer we can see a comrade fifty rods to his rear, with the aid of our reconnoitering night-glass, and another comrade the same distance in front, so that we need have no difficulty in comprehending that they belong to a line of pickets which "To shoot your enemy or to be shot by stretches far away from the approaches

his mere personnel would prove him no fle suddenly disturbs the silence. As will pretty well located in his mind, and so creen friend of the hatless and coatless prophet of readily be conceived, the firing of a piece at up to him, rifle or knife in hand, to disnatch The principles of picketing are the same the bogus confederacy. His gun is carried this hour in the lines is an event, and every- him. On one occasion, a Zouave, who was wing securing the rebels' left, at once reliev- tive Slave Law, by Mason, the rebel ambas- throughout our entire army, so that the prac- at "secure arms," out of respect for a mist in body is instantly on the alert to know what picketing on the Centerville road, suspect-A lyceum has been organized on the ed them. At this critical moment Col Law- sador; 10th, Relics of John Brown, consist- tice which obtains in Virginia and Missouri the air, but his eyes move rapidly from one it means. It soon turns out that one of the ing that this sort of game was to be tried on Rivered, in the barracks of Co. B. Its fourth ler fell, and Capt. Bush, acting lieutenant ing of the rope with which he was hung, and holds good in Tennessee and South Carolina, point to another, so that it would be quite pickets has accidentally shot himself, while him that night, secreted himself a short disinvestings I believe, comes off to-night. The colonel, assumed command, but was soon pieces of his hide neatly tanned and preserv- As in a forward movement into the enemy's useless for a rebel to attempt to sneak upon going to relieve his file-leaders, and the poor tance from the spot his comrades had occucountry, the commander throws out a body him unawares. He is especially attentive to fellow dies before half his comrades compre- pied during the day. As he expected, his bolved, that the press is mightier in its influ- Lawler was mortally wounded, Lieuts Mans- Other "productions" of the sunny South, of skirmishers in advance of his main force, a thickly wooded knoll half a mile to the head the nature of the alarm. "Accidental- adversary, failing to find him at the usual ence for good than the clergy." That dis- ford and Thompson killed, and Captains Dil- equally novel and equally unique, might be so in a permanent encampment does he throw southwest of his post, for it was there, he ly shot" is a term often uttered and written spot, commenced to "feel him out," by throwtussed at the last meeting was, "Resolved lon and Wilson and Lieuts Kelly and Scan- mentioned; but the above will indicate the out a line of pickets, posting them, singly or can tell you, that one of his most respected in the army of the Potomac, and it really ling stones in various directions, wherever

THE POST.

one of the peculiar institutions of the slave fires on the posts, he has not yet abolished A dozen rods beyond it is a hole, surround- asleep, wrapped up in a blanket before the nassas. The wash-house itself is charred and vail out-of-doors. blackened on the outside, showing that it was saved from the fate of the dwelling only by the humidity of the logs of which it is composed. The window in one end has been closed with pieces of logs, and a sort of door has been formed of the same materials. Inside, in rude bunks against the wall, are lying the three pickets off duty (this detachment being posted in groups, or just as they would be deployed as skirmishers.) None of them are asleep, but they are discussing the intensity of the cold, and the several subjects of research belonging to the place and the

A COLD PROSPECT. ourselves, reader and writer, to be visiting at come on, with here and there a flash, while midnight, on this cold winter night, it is to the pickets rally on Jake's post to receive be confessed that the prospect of the picket them, it being already seen that they are not is not remarkably brilliant and attractive. If in force, but only a dozen or so daring and he had a fire at the cabin, or any sheltered reckless troopers on a scout. The question nook in the vicinity, he would hardly dare of their character is speedily decided by a few avail himself of its warmth, for has he not straggling shots they send in advance, and a been warned that the enemy's prowling cav- sharp volley from the pickets is the answer alry are liable to visit him at any moment? they receive. He has nothing to do but to pace to and fro. The next moment they rush in upon our own resources, and at the same time keep a long swords, but they have reckoned without good look-out in every direction. If the cold their host this time-the sad accident before mist should chance to turn into a colder described having left the pickets in a situasleety rain, so much the worse for him, but tion to quickly and intelligently rally. For he must still keep his eyes and ears open, a few minutes there is an active melee, the and perform his allotted share of the night's tall leader of the horsemen doing wonders,

kind friend has sent him in a Christmas box, the next instant they commence a retreat in it is a question if his hands would not be so considerable confusion, all save the three or cold that he would be unable, in case of sud- four of their number who will never more den attack, to hold his gun to his shoulder beat a retrest. A general cheer breaks from and pull the trigger. His feet, stout as are the lips of the pickets, even as they proceed his boots, fairly ache with the cold, and he is to raise the poor fellow the tell trooper has compelled to cut sundry capers in behalf of cut down, and the two or three others who half frozen members, which are more violent have received more or less injury in the af-

THE DIGNITY OF THE SENTINEL.

But, for all that, be on your guard against undervaluing the dignity of a picket or any Another cheer of delight is soon heard a legal power of life and death, but the cold leader of the Rebel party is going directly wisdom? Or, if he chooses not to let his strangers, surrounded by those who do not own colonel pass when he does not have the even know his name, and who never saw magic word, as sometimes happens, and if, him before. He has come for blood, and peradventure, he shall keep that colonel shiv- has taken it-made just such another desoering at the point of the bayonet for an hour late home as his own was fated soon to be or two, under pretence of not knowing him, and these are the fortunes and the fates of albeit he knoweth him as well as he knoweth war! his own father, verily, even in this case, is the sentry not refuged within the limits of his just and legal power?

"GRAND ROUNDS."

them, to see that everything is going as it logs, on the opposite side of the river, all the should. On these occasion, as in regular forenoon, each seeking for an opportunity of camp duty, the escort of the officer is a file putting a bullet into the diaphragm of his of men and a sergeant. No sooner does the adversary-it is comical, I say, to see these party approach to within a few rods of the same men wave a handkerchief at last, as a sentinel than he challenges them: "Who flag of truce, lay down their arms, and adgoes there?" bringing his piece to a port, vance to a meeting in the middle of the river The answer is "Grand Rounds!" "Halt, (up to their waists in water,) where they Grand Rounds ." is the peremptory command shake hands, "treat" one another, exchange of the picket, and the party halt, when he New York papers for Richmond, and disadds: "Advance, sergeant, and give the course most amicably for an hour. It is still as soon as he is within five paces the picket stant they get back to their respective posts,

is correct-advance. Rounds!" and faces to ter has repeatedly seen on the Potomac and the front, shouldering his piece, while the elsewhere. Rounds pass on. In the immediate presence of the enemy this ceremonious inspection is omitted. The countersign is sometimes the name of a State, running through ceive a great deal of attention from the rebelfrom Maine to California, and sometimes the lious citizens in the vicinity of their outposts, name of a battle, as Palo Alto, or Waterloo, especially after nightfall. Lurking around or a number, as twenty, or forty-two.

As the night wears on, the report of a ri- where the picket could be found after dark watch his movements, or at least so far in a prowling secessionist, while carelessly stroll- lessness of the soldiers in handling their

weapons. There is scarcely a regiment in the service but has lost from one to half a dozen members in this most saddening manner. The mangled remains are borne away to head-quarters, to await honored burial, yet it is not certain but that some of those most affected by the event will meet their fate in the same careless manner.

THE PICKET HEAD-QUARTERS.

The head-quarters of the picketing detachment is an old barn or other building, so situated as to be in a central position from the several posts. It is here that the men get their meals; that the cuisine department is carried on, that the officer in charge is usually to be found, and that the majority of the The post, in this instance, is one of those men who are off duty congregate. Let Mclittle wash-houses, beside a spring, which are Clellan say what he pleases about having states. It is situated almost at the foot of the fire in the "kitchen," nor prescribed its the old oak aforesaid, and is not far from ten size, and lo! what a consumption of logs and feet square, and of a height sufficient for the rails is therefore in progress at these headoccupants to stand upright without trouble. quarters! The lieutenant in command is ed by loose stones, which is readily recog- fire, and many of the men are imitating his nized as the former cellar of a house which example, so that the scene inside of this some earnest rebel consigned to the flames rickety old barn presents quite a cheerful before he turned his face finally toward Ma- contrast with the cold and gloom which pre-

A CAVALRY CHARGE.

The next shot that is fired will have a different meaning. Jake is now on the post, in his turn, as fiercely wratiful and wakeful as the toothache can make him, and he sees the shadowy horse moving against the southern horizon long before that horse can take the distinct outlines of men and horses. The instant he is certain what is coming, he fires his piece. Immediately there is an outpouring of pickets from the headquarters, and a lively excitement along the lines. The lieutenant is instantly on his feet, and reconnoitering the approaching rebel horsemen, while quietly making the disposition for As we stand on the post we have supposed their reception. Like a thunder cloud they

but it is soon evident that the assailants are Were it not for those stout gloves some getting more than they bargained for, and fair, for it is an exciting and jubilant thing to see your enemy flying before you.

EMPTYING A SADDLE.

other sentry whatever. For he not only has along the post, for it is seen that the daring instrument in his hands with which to put across the ravine, in a course that will bring that power into practice. If Gen McClellan him near the advanced post number two .or Abraham Lincoln himself, were to endea- He is speedily beyond the sight of Jake, and vor to pass that picket without the counter- his comrades fading away in the gloom on sign, or if those distinguished gentlemen the right of his followers, but the report of were to refuse to halt at the picket's com- several rifles is heard a minute or two later, mand, then their blood would be upon their and a cry of triumph from the "boys" at post own heads if he shot them on the spot. In number two announces the result. The his particular province the picket is autocrat- horse of the doomed man is seen by these ic as the Czar himself. If he chooses to pass a latter ascending the side of the plateau, colored vender of biscuits, or a 'friend' who bounding onward with renewed speed, riderpresents him with a bottle of "old rve" in less! The rebel is dead-shot through the lieu of the countersign, who shall gainsay his heart. He lies there, a stranger, dead among

HOBNOBEING WITH REBEL. PICKETS.

It is probable that there will be no hobnobbing between our pickets and those of the rebels along these lines to-night. But At the dead of night, in the "small hours," the interchange of these courtesies is comcountersign." The sergeant advances, and more comical to see these same men, the inbrings his piece to the position of charge renew their dodging behind the logs, and rebayonet, and the sergeant whispers the word peat their efforts to get a good opportunity as he halts immediately in front of the weap- of blazing away at each other, yet this scene on. The sentry then says, "The countersign is a literal statement of proceedings the wri-

PICKET GOSSIP, INCIDENTS, ETC. When the Fire Zouaves first went picketing in Virginia, last summer, they used to rethe neighborhood in the daytime, the wouldbe assassin was accustomed to get the spot

(Concluded on Fourth Page.)